

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6 and 10 are pending. Claim 1 has been amended to present the invention to the Examiner in a more effective manner. Claim 10 has been added.

Claims 1, 2 and 6 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Kano (U.S. Patent. No. 5,539,977). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

As shown in FIG. 2 of Kano,

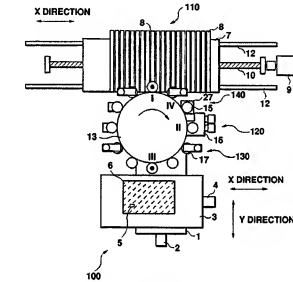


Fig. 2

cited line sensor 27 of mounting station 100 is located at position IV of rotary table 13, which, according to the clockwise rotation of table 13, is located *after* position I, where chip part 5 is *picked up* from parts feeding device 8, and *before* position III, where chip part 5 is *mounted* on printed substrate 6.

Therefore, Kano's line sensor cannot anticipate claim 1 because it does not measure a nozzle position *after* the nozzle *releases* an electronic component to a printed board and *before* a vertical movement of the nozzle for *picking up* the next electronic component is performed as claimed.

If mounting station 100 attempts, but fails, to pick up a chip part at position I (due to an abnormality, for example), it nonetheless engages in a vertical movement at position I in its

attempt to pick up the chip part. Even in this situation Kano cannot anticipate claim 1, because the Kano sensor at position IV would not be measuring a nozzle position *after* the nozzle releases an electronic component to a printed board and *before* a *vertical movement* of the nozzle for *picking up* the next electronic component *is performed* as claimed.

Therefore, because Kano fails to disclose, either expressly or inherently, each and every element as set forth in claim 1, Kano cannot anticipate claim 1 and claims depending thereon.

Claim 4 stands rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kano in view of Takeuchi (U.S. Patent. No. 5,661,239). Applicants respectfully traverses this rejection because the suggestions or motivations provided by the Examiner do not cure the deficiencies of Kano (the 35 USC 102 art) as explained above.

Claims 1 and 6 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Ito (JP 2002208800) in view of Kano. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections because, as explained above, Kano does not measure a nozzle position after the nozzle releases an electronic component to a printed board and before a vertical movement of the nozzle for picking up the next electronic component is performed as recited in claim 1. Additionally, Ito fails to teach or suggest, and was not cited by the Examiner for teaching or suggesting, this recited claim language.

Accordingly, claim 1 and claims depending thereon are not rendered obvious over Ito in view of Kano under 35 USC 103.

In view of the above, a Notice of Allowance is solicited.

In the event that the Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the

Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing Docket No. **606402015100**.

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